AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for configuration negotiation in a data communication system, comprising:

receiving, at an access network, an access request and a token from an access terminal, the token including a plurality of bits, each bit of the plurality of bits associated with a different type of protocol~~at least one bit associated with a parameter group type~~, ~~the at least one~~such that each bit ~~indicating~~indicates whether the access terminal is operating according to a default protocol ~~parameter group~~for the associated type of protocol~~parameter group type~~;

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol without negotiating parameters for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol and without sending the parameters for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol to the access terminal when a portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol and ~~the at least one~~a bit of the plurality of bits indicates the access terminal operates according to the default protocol ~~parameter group~~ for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol.~~, wherein the token includes a plurality of bits, each bit associated with a different parameter group type.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when at least one of,

(i) the portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to a ~~parameter group~~protocol other than the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol and the ~~at least one~~bit indicates the access terminal operates according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol, ~~or~~and

(ii) the portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol and the ~~at least one~~bit indicates the access terminal operates according to a ~~parameter group~~protocol other than the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

first accessing memory at the access network when the ~~at least one~~bit indicates the access terminal is not operating according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol to obtain a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal; and

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal according to the stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal without negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when a portion

of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to the stored ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when the portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol which is different from the stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when the first accessing step fails to access a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:

second accessing memory at another access network to obtain a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal when the first accessing step fails to access a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal and the bit indicates the access terminal is not operating according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when the first and second accessing steps fail to access a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

sending the access terminal a new token indicating a current ~~parameter group~~protocol of each ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol after negotiations are complete.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

sending the access terminal a new token indicating a current ~~parameter group~~protocol of each ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol after negotiations are complete.

11. (Previously Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended)) A method ~~for configuration negotiation in a data communication system,~~ comprising:

receiving, at an access network, an access request and a token from an access terminal, the token including a plurality of bits, each bit of the plurality of bits associated with a different type of protocol ~~at least one bit associated with a parameter group type, the at least one~~ such that each bit ~~indicating~~ indicates whether the access terminal is operating according to a default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated

~~parameter group type~~type of protocol, the access terminal having a first parameter set for the associated type of protocol;

first accessing memory at the access network when ~~the at least one~~a bit of the plurality of bits indicates the access terminal is not operating according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol in an attempt to obtain a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal, the stored protocol indicating the first parameter set for the associated type of protocol; and

sending information to ~~and receiving information from~~ the access terminal according to the stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal ~~without negotiating a parameter group~~protocol ~~of the associated parameter group type~~type of protocol ~~and without sending the parameters for the associated parameter group type~~type of protocol to the access terminal~~ when a portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according the stored ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol~~, wherein the token includes a plurality of bits, each bit associated with a different parameter group type~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

~~sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after~~ negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when the portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the ~~associated parameter group type~~type of protocol which is different from the stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal; and sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal according to the protocol negotiated.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when the first accessing step fails to obtain ~~access~~a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocols for the access terminal.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

second accessing memory at another access network in an attempt to obtain a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal when the first accessing step fails to obtain ~~access~~a stored ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal and the ~~at least one~~bit indicates the access terminal is not operating according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal after negotiating a ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol when the first and second accessing steps fail to obtain ~~access~~a ~~stored~~ ~~parameter group~~protocol of the associated ~~parameter group type~~type of protocol for the access terminal.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

sending the access terminal a new token indicating a current ~~parameter group~~protocol of each ~~parameter group type~~of the type of protocol after negotiations are complete.

18. (Previously Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for configuration negotiation in a data communication system, comprising:

storing ~~parameter groups~~protocols of ~~parameter group types~~at least one type of protocol previously established between an access network and an access terminal;

receiving, at the access network, an access request and a token from the access terminal, the token including a plurality of bits, each bit of the plurality of bits associated with a different type of protocol ~~at least one bit associated with at least one of the parameter group types~~, ~~the at least one~~such that each bit ~~indicating~~ indicates whether the access terminal is operating according to a default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~one of the parameter group types~~type of protocol;

sending information to and receiving information from the access terminal according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol without negotiating parameters for the associated ~~one of the parameter group types~~type of protocol and without sending the parameters for the associated ~~one of the parameter group types~~type of protocol to the access terminal when a portion of the access network communicating with the access terminal operates according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated one of the parameter group types and ~~the at least one~~a bit of the plurality of bits indicates the access terminal operates according to the default ~~parameter group~~protocol for the associated ~~one of the parameter group types~~type of protocol.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

sending the access terminal a new token indicating a current ~~parameter groupprotocol~~ of each of the ~~parameter group typetype~~ of protocol after negotiations are complete.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

sending the access terminal a new token indicating a current ~~parameter groupprotocol~~ of each ~~parameter group typeof~~ the type of protocol after negotiations are complete.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

sending the access terminal a new token indicating a current ~~parameter groupprotocol~~ of each ~~parameter group typeof~~ the type of protocol after negotiations are complete.

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END OF CLAIM LISTING